CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for configuring a first parameter to a first device, comprising the steps of:

providing a network communication channel connected to the first device and to a configuring machine;

from the configuring machine, sending the first parameter and a device's identifier to the communication channel;

acquiring the first parameter upon identifying the device's identifier on the communication channel; and

configuring the first parameter to the first device;

wherein the first device provides administrative capabilities to a second device.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the first device is selected from a group consisting of:

a device being part of the second device; and

a device providing console capabilities to the second device.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of sending comprising the steps of:

sending the first parameter to a table in the configuring machine; and

obtaining the first parameter from the table.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein:

the first parameter is an internet protocol address;

an address resolution protocol command sending the internet protocol address to the table; and

a packet internet groper protocol command obtaining the internet protocol address from the table.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the device's identifier is a media access control address of the first device.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the first device performing the step of acquiring the first parameter.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of acquiring comprises the steps of:

the second device obtaining the first parameter, and

acquiring the first parameter from the second device.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the first device being part of the second device.

9. The method of claim 7 wherein the first device communicates with the second device via an interconnect selected from a group consisting an input-output interconnect, a peripheral component interconnect bus, an industry standard architecture bus, an extended industry standard architecture bus, an infini band, and a personal computer memory card international association standard.

10. The method of claim 7 wherein the device's identifier is selected from a group consisting of an internet protocol address of the second device, a media access

control address of the second device, and an asynchronous transfer mode address of the second device.

11. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of inhibiting future configurations to the first device until the first device is in an un-configured state.

12. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of configuring a second parameter to the first device, the second parameter being sent with the first parameter in a packet.

13. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of sending a command with the first parameter in a packet, the command being executed in the first device.

14. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of acquiring comprises the step of checking whether the first parameter is valid.

15. A method for configuring a parameter to a first device, comprising the steps of:

providing a network communication channel connected to the first device and to a configuring machine;

from the configuring machine, sending the parameter and a device's identifier to the communication channel;

acquiring the parameter upon identifying the device's identifier on the communication channel; and

configuring the parameter to the first device;

wherein the first device is selected from a group consisting of a device providing tools managing a second device;

a device being part of a second device;

a device providing mirror capabilities to a second device;

a device providing interactions between a second device and a third device; and

a device providing console capabilities to a second device.

16. A network having a first device providing administrative capabilities to a second device, comprising:

means for connecting a network communication channel to the first device and to a configuring machine;

means for sending a network address and a device's identifier from the configuring machine to the communication channel;

means for acquiring the network address upon identifying the device's identifier on the communication channel; and

means for the first device to configure the network address to the first device.

17. The network of claim 16 wherein the device's identifier is a media access control address of the first device.

18. The network of claim 16 wherein the first device is selected from a group consisting of:

a device embedded in the second device; and

a device providing console capabilities to the second device.

19. A computer-readable medium embodying instructions for a computer to perform a method for configuring a network address to a first device, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a network communication channel connected to the first device and to a configuring machine;

from the configuring machine, sending the network address and a device's identifier to the communication channel;

acquiring the network address upon identifying the device's identifier on the communication channel; and

configuring the network address to the first device;

wherein the first device providing administrative capabilities to a second device.

20. The computer-readable medium of claim 19 wherein the device' identifier is a media access control address of the first device.

21. The computer-readable medium of claim 18 wherein the first device is selected from a group consisting of:

a device embedded in the second device; and

a device providing console capabilities to the second device.

22. The computer-readable medium of claim 18 wherein the method further comprising the step of configuring a second parameter to the first device, the second parameter being sent with the first parameter in a packet.

23. The computer-readable medium of claim 18 wherein the method further comprising the step of sending a command with the first parameter in a packet, the command being executed in the first device.